

ISDH Long Term Care  
Newsletter Issue 2013-08  
April 2, 2013

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**PUBLIC HEALTH IS  
ROI**

**Save Lives, Save Money**  
National Public Health Week  
April 1-7, 2013 • [www.nphw.org](http://www.nphw.org)

## National Public Health Week - Day 2

**CELEBRATE PUBLIC HEALTH WEEK**  
***Provide a Safe Environment for Children at School***

INDIANAPOLIS-Tuesday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> is the second day of National Public Health Week, an annual observance where communities recognize the contributions of public health and highlight issues which are important to improving the health of the nation.

This year's theme is "Public Health is Return on Investment (ROI): Save Lives, Save Money" and focuses on the economic impact of health and on the role that everyone in the community has to support public health and prevention. Each day of the week has a specific theme that focuses on prevention activities. Today's theme is providing a safe environment for children at school.

"Research shows that students' health affects their academic performance," said State Health Commissioner William VanNess, M.D. "This includes their grades, attendance, behavior and even

whether they graduate. It's critical to ensure our kids have a safe and healthy environment in which to excel. The partnership between the public health and education spheres is key to making this happen."

Help provide a safe, healthy environment for children at school by following these tips:

- Pack a healthy lunch for your child, include fruits and vegetables.
- Support healthy food policies at school.
- Encourage schools to remove sugary drinks and junk food in vending machines.
- Support more physical education at school.
- Volunteer for school health education efforts that teach kids to say no to tobacco, alcohol and drugs.

In 2011, 30.2 percent of Indiana high school students were considered overweight or obese. In order to reduce childhood obesity, the Indiana State Department of Health works with school corporations around the state to strengthen their school wellness policies to support healthier nutrition and physical activity practices. This includes technical assistance from staff and copies of the Indiana Healthy Schools Toolkit.

Youth are also at serious risk of smoking. The majority of daily smokers start before the age of 18. The Tobacco Prevention and Cessation program at the Indiana State Department of Health works with community and minority-based tobacco control coalitions across Indiana to reduce tobacco use and encourage comprehensive tobacco-free policies at schools.

Exposing youth to tobacco-free environments through school-based policies contributes to a reduction in initiation, prevalence and intensity of smoking among youth. In 2001, only 28 percent of public school districts in Indiana had tobacco-free policies in place. Currently, 83 percent of public school districts in Indiana have enacted comprehensive tobacco-free school policies.

To learn more about National Public Health Week, visit [www.nphw.org](http://www.nphw.org).

To visit the Indiana State Department of Health's website, go to [www.StateHealth.in.gov](http://www.StateHealth.in.gov).

## ISDH Health Care Facility Licensing Updates

### **Notices of Transfer or Discharge: Follow Up**

In yesterday's newsletter, we requested that nursing homes send the ISDH a copy of transfer or discharge notices. To clarify that request, the ISDH is requesting a copy of any involuntary transfer or discharge notice. Transfers to hospitals or other health care providers are not included in this request. Voluntary discharges to home are also not included. The request is intended for involuntary transfers or discharges.

Copies of the notice may be sent to the following:

- fax to 317-233-7143
- fax to 317-234-6278
- email to [incidents@isdh.in.gov](mailto:incidents@isdh.in.gov)

## CMS Updates

### **Notice of Facility Closure Regulation**

The final rule titled *Requirements for Long Term Care (LTC) Facilities; Notice of Facility Closure* was published on March 19, 2013, and is effective April 18, 2013. This rule implements the statutory requirements under the Affordable Care Act requiring that, in the case of a long term care facility closure, the administrator of the facility must provide written notification of the closure and the facility's plan for the relocation of residents. The Federal Register link is <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2013-03-19/pdf/2013-06276.pdf>.

### **SC 13-15-NH Physician Delegation of Tasks in Skilled Nursing Facilities (SNFs) and Nursing Facilities (NFs)**

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has issued [Survey and Certification Letter 13-15-NH](#) on physician delegation of tasks. This memo provides clarification of Federal guidance related to physician delegation of certain tasks in SNFs and NFs to non-physician practitioners (NPPs; formerly "physician extenders") such as nurse practitioners, physician assistants, or clinical nurse specialists. The letter implements section 3108 of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act which adds physician assistants to the list of practitioners that can perform Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) level of care certifications and re-certifications. The letter also clarifies policy on co-signing orders in SNFs and NFs.

### **SC 13-16-NH F-Tag 155 Advance Directives Revised Advance Copy**

CMS has issued [Survey and Certification Letter 13-16-NH](#) on advance directives. Revisions have been made to [Surveyor Guidance at F tag 155](#) in Appendix PP of the State Operations Manual (SOM) and the associated [training slides](#) since the release of S&C 12-47 on September 27, 2012. The revisions include:

- Removal of the term "right to accept" when referring to medical and surgical treatment.
- Addition of guidance specific to experimental research.
- Clarification that §483.10(b)(8) applies only to adult residents and not all residents regardless of age.
- Addition of definition for "Investigational or experimental drugs."
- Updating the Investigative Protocol.
- Updating the Power Point training slides.

### **SC 13-17-NH F-tag 322 Nasogastric Tubes Revised Advance Copy**

CMS has issued [Survey and Certification Letter 13-17-NH](#) on nasogastric tubes. Additional revisions have been made to [Surveyor Guidance at F tag 322](#) in Appendix PP of the State Operations Manual (SOM) and the associated [training slides](#) since the release of S&C 12-46 on September 27, 2012. The revisions include:

- Revision of the Regulatory Language format.
- Additional clarification regarding the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) expanded definition of "Naso-Gastric tubes."
- Updating the Power Point training slides.

### **SC 13-21-ALL Access to Statements of Deficiencies (CMS-2567) on the Web for Skilled Nursing Facilities, Nursing Facilities, Hospitals, & Critical Access Hospitals**

CMS has issued [Survey and Certification Letter 13-21-ALL](#) on web access of statements of deficiencies. In July 2012, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) began posting redacted Statements of Deficiencies (CMS-2567s) for skilled nursing facilities and nursing facilities on *Nursing Home Compare*. In March 2013, CMS began posting CMS-2567s for short-term acute care hospitals and critical access hospitals (CAHs) for surveys based on complaint investigations.